

# Reliable, Low Cost Distributed Generator/Utility System Interconnect

**Subcontract Number: NAD-1-30605-01** 

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**Electric Distribution Transformation Program** 

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#### **Outline**

- Program Overview
  - Objectives, Three-Year Milestones & Budget
  - Relevance to Problems and Needs
  - Accomplishment Highlights
- Detailed Accomplishments
  - Technical Approach
  - Interconnect Study
  - Interconnect Design/Prototyping/Testing
- Collaborations/Technology Transition
- Future Plans

# **Program Overview**

#### **Objectives:**

- Explore DG/Grid interconnection and system integration issues
- Develop standard-compliant DG/Grid interconnect to overcome interconnection barriers, to allow reliable system operation, and to achieve full value of DG

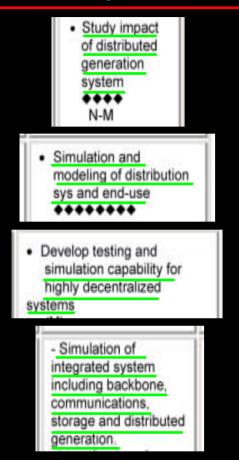
2001 2002 2003 2004 **Optional Year I Optional Year II Base Year**  Virtual test bed Universal Interconnect Inverter & machined based Interconnect (UI) Prototyping Case studies UI Testing Prototyping/Testing Interconnect conceptual design Microgrid study High penetration study Technology Transition Technology Transition

#### **FUNDING**

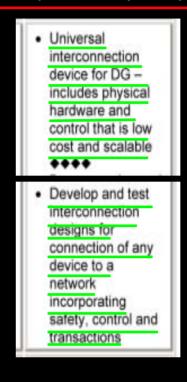
Total	(\$2,285K)	\$850K	\$885K	\$550K
GE	(40%)	\$340K	\$385K	\$220K
DOE	(60%)	\$510K	\$500K	\$330K

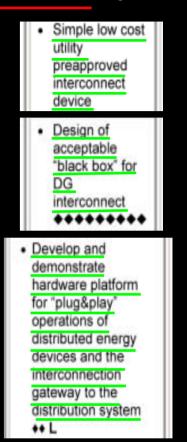
#### Relevance to Problems and Needs\*

\*Proceedings of "National Electric Delivery Technologies Roadmap Workshop", July 8-9, 2003, Washington DC





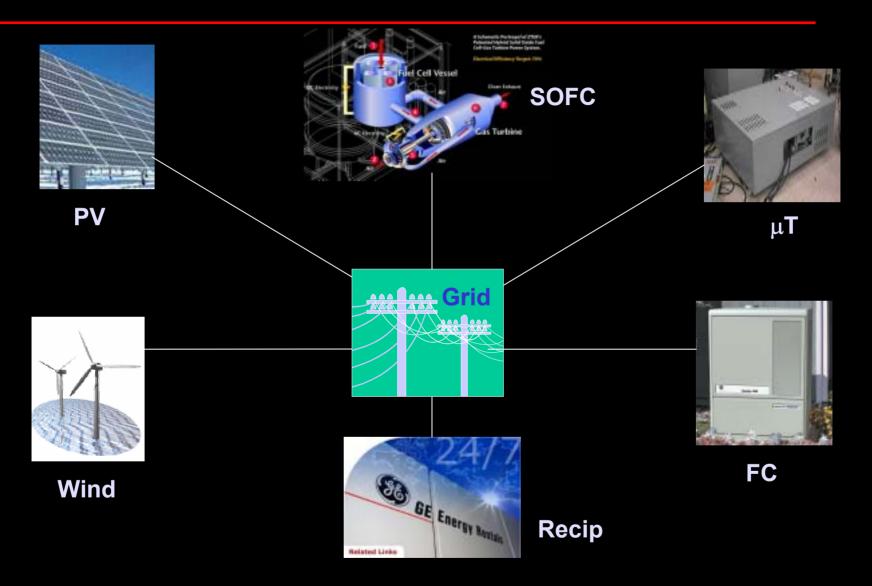




# **Impacts and Benefits**

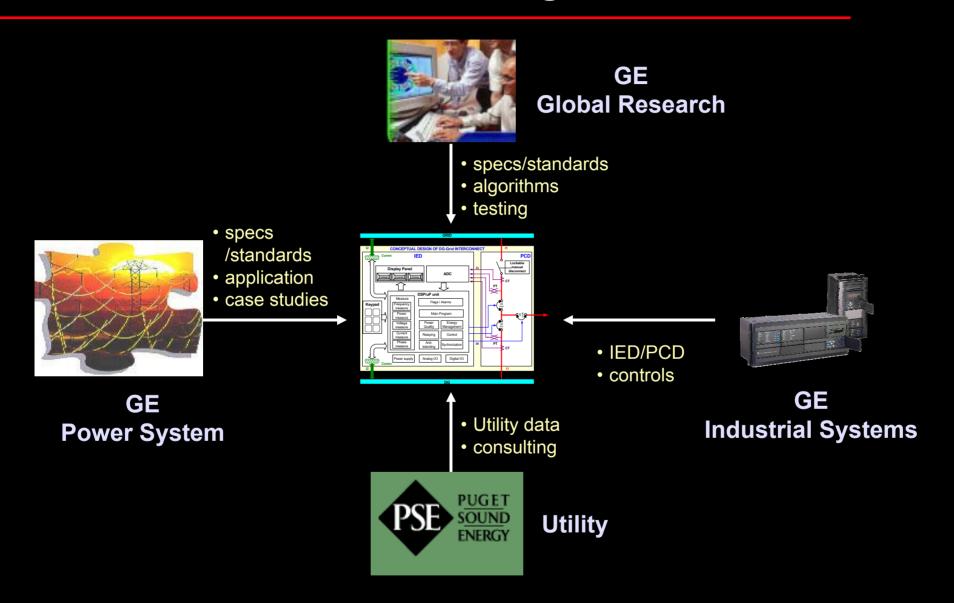
- GE's system simulation capabilities provide fundamental understanding of DG impact on power systems, as well as underlying design requirements for DG integration with power systems
- GE Proposed UI approach will reduce interconnection costs, both hardware and process, and allow for increased reliability and full value of DG without compromising system performance

### **GE Stakeholders**



The technology is a key to the overall success of GE's strategy to move into the alternative energy and DG market

# **Teaming**



**Cross GE Businesses/Utility Team** 

# **Program Accomplishments**

- Delivered 10 milestones reports
- Published 6 papers, including 1 for workshop, 5 for IEEE Conferences
- Organized and chaired 1 DG panel session at IEEE Conferences
- Disclosed 5 inventions, including 2 filed for full patent
- Prototyped 2 interconnect hardware
- Technology transition to 2 GE product platforms

Significant achievements with visible business/industry impact

# **Technical Approach**

#### **Technical Challenges of Current Practices:**

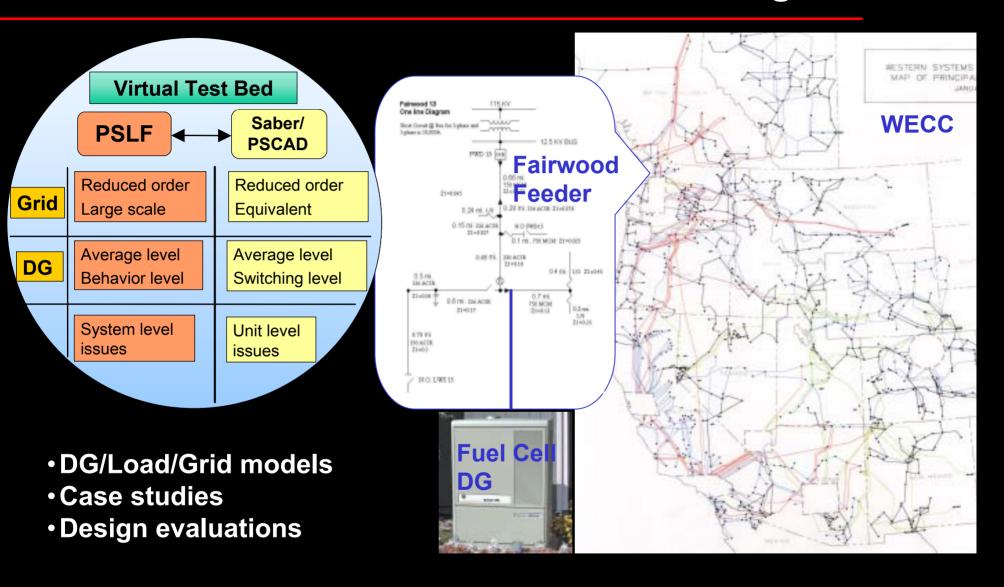
- System impact caused by DG/Grid interconnection is not well understood (quantitatively)
- No standard interconnection solutions that are well established and accepted
  - Lack of low cost, reliable interconnection devices for DE and storage\*
  - Design of acceptable "black box" for DG interconnection\*
  - Simple, low cost utility pre-approved interconnect device\*

#### **Technical Approaches:**

- Modeling (VTB): not only understand fundamental issues, but quantitative analysis to provide system design guidelines
- Design and prototype new concepts/architectures/functions/controls to meet underlying requirements, universal solutions for plug-and-play and streamline process
- Testing: proof-of-concept and technology transition

#### A system approach to addressing DG/Grid interconnection

# Virtual Test Bed – Multi-Level Modeling Platform



A platform for long term DG & interconnect study